Risk Assessment

Toolbox Talk
Risk Assessment: Definitions

- What is a ‘hazard’?
  - ‘Anything that can cause harm’

- What is ‘risk’?
  - ‘The chance that somebody will be harmed by the hazard’
How we Approach Risk Assessments

- Physical Environment/Premises
- Tasks
- Activities
- Events
- High-risk People Groups
Risk assessment process

- **Step 1:** Hazard identification
- **Step 2:** Who might be harmed & how
- **Step 3:** Evaluate the risks & existing controls
- **Step 4:** Record your findings
- **Step 5:** Review & revise your findings
Risk Evaluation

- Consider how likely each hazard could cause harm
- Eliminate the hazard
- Reduce the risk ‘As low as reasonably practicable’ (ALARP)
- Add control measure(s) where necessary
- A Risk Reduction Plan (RRP) must be completed
Recording of Risk Assessments

Suitable and sufficient - not perfect!

You must be able to show that:

- A proper check was made
- You asked who might be affected
- You dealt with all the obvious significant hazards
- The risk is as low as is possible.
Reviewing Risk Assessments

Reviews should take place:

- after an accident
- after a complaint
- after a change in the activity
- after a change in legislation
- when new information/guidance is available
- on a regular basis